



Gifts of Leadership, Mercy // Ephesians 4:11

Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; (7) if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; (8) the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

Characteristics of the Gift of Leadership

- Attending-to/directing others diligently, sacrificially, for their well being
- Recognizes the ultimate Leader: Jesus, subjecting himself/herself to Him (Rom. 1:1)
- Infers personal care and nourishing of those he/she leads

And Jesus called them to Him and said to them, “You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. (43) But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant”

Characteristics of the Gift of Mercy

- Empathy and compassion for those who suffer, translated into cheerfully done deeds which reflect Christ's love and alleviate suffering
- Senses the emotional, physical, and/or spiritual needs of others
- Never mechanical or obligatory, but always eager to offer support

And He gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, (12) to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, (13) until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,

Ephesians 4:14-15 (ESV)

(14)so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. (15)Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into Him who is the head, into Christ, (16)from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

Characteristics of the Gift of Evangelist

- A heart/burden for the unsaved
- Especially effective ('successful') at sharing the Gospel
- Engaging, personable, thoughtful, loving
- Provoke believers to share the Gospel

Characteristics of the Gift of Shepherd-Teacher

- A role/gift conferred upon men
- Acknowledges Jesus as the Great Shepherd
- One who leads, guides, protects, and teaches the flock of God with authority
- Compels God's people to exercise their gifts and accomplish all aspects of ministry, unified in love

“I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. (28) Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. (29) I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock;

(30)and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. (31)Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. (32)And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.”

Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

“But Peter put them all outside, and knelt down and prayed; and turning to the body he said, ‘Tabitha, arise.’ And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up.”